

Power Outage Scenario

It is a very hot and muggy day with the temperature of 98 degrees in the shade. Humidity is above 80% with a very slight breeze out of the south west.

It is 11:25 AM and your facility has just lost electrical power. Your back-up electrical generator fails to start. Maintenance has contacted the utility company that supplies electricity and was told there is a black out for this area due to the high demand for electricity. The Utility Company is working on the problem but advises the power may not return for some time and request you take actions needed to be self sufficient. That turns your focus on the back-up generator which now you are told has also had a meltdown. Maintenance is currently trying to determine what parts will be needed and advise you that it may take several days for the parts. For this scenario lets plan on the power being off for at least 48 hours.

1. Now that it looks like you will be with out electricity for a period of time, what would be the first call you would make, and why?
2. Do you have a contact that may be able to get you another generator installed ASAP?
3. What steps are you going to take to protect the residents from the heat and humidity?
4. What resources do you have on site that will help you?
5. What resources may you find off site that may be able to use?
6. With the outage there then becomes the issue of lighting during dark hours or those areas that do not have direct light by means of a window or door. How would you illuminate those areas?
7. The lack of power will make it difficult to prepare meals. How would you address this problem?